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CASE OP/4-32290P1/USN

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

AYERS ET AL.

APPLICATION NO: 09/944,803

FILED: AUGUST 31, 2001

FOR: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MANAGING PRODUCT SALES DATA/
FOR EXTERNAL REPORTS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

The Notice to File Missing Parts of October 5, 2002 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on December 5, 2002. A three-month extension has already been requested and a fourth month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis Corporation in the amount of \$520 for payment of the extension fee. An additional copy of this paper is here enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis Corporation.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Date: April 5, 2002